

*For Immediate Release*

## The IDOC Unveils a New Green Initiative

Pendleton, Indiana (October 15, 2009) – More and more, the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) has been taking steps to promote energy efficiency and save money. Today at a ribbon cutting ceremony, IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss introduced another green initiative that will save the agency \$36 million over ten years.

The ceremony at the Pendleton Correctional Facility highlighted the installation of a biomass boiler, which uses post-production scrap wood purchased from local Indiana businesses for fuel instead of natural gas. The boiler, installed as part of a State energy savings contract, replaces fossil fuel dependency with renewable and environmentally friendly resources. The boiler is part of a larger IDOC green initiative, made possible by a partnership with Johnson Controls, to give four IDOC facilities upgrades to promote energy efficiency.



Commissioner Buss speaks at the ceremony (left). State Representative Terri Austin, Commissioner Buss, and Johnson Controls V.P. Dave Peters cut the ribbon to the new boiler (right).

On hand to celebrate the new boiler was Indiana State Representative Terri Austin, who represents the district including Madison County. She applauded the initiative, saying, “Not only do initiatives like this promote the environment, they also promote cost savings for Hoosier taxpayers.”

Commissioner Buss also hailed the move by saying, “Taking steps to make our facilities more energy efficient is a win-win for everyone, especially Hoosiers. By using more environmentally-friendly mechanisms for heat, we are saving the State of Indiana millions of dollars, and we are helping Hoosier businesses as well.”

The other IDOC facilities that will receive energy efficiency upgrades through this initiative with Johnson Controls are the Indiana State Prison, Plainfield Correctional Facility, and Westville Correctional Facility. Putnamville Correctional Facility already has benefitted from such green initiatives.



Scrap wood goes into the boiler as fuel (left) and is processed to generate heat, instead of using natural gas (right).

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